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BROWN'S

SHORT CATECHISM

FOR

YOUNG CHILDREN.

TORONTO:
JAMES CAMPBELL,
9 TORONTO STREET.

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BY THE

REV. JOHN BROWN,

LATE MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL AT HADDINGTON.

A NEW EDITION, GREATLY IMPROVED.

TORONTO:
JAMES CAMPBELL,
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SHORT CATECHISM

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1 *Q. WHO made you?*
A. God.
2 *Q. Who redeemed you?*
A. Christ.
3 *Q. Who sanctifies you?*
A. The Holy Ghost.
4 *Q. Of what were you made?*
A. Of dust.
5 *Q. What doth that teach you?*
A. To be humble and mindful of death.
6 *Q. For what end were you made?*
A. To serve God.
7 *Q. Why ought you to serve God?*
A. Because he made, preserves, and redeems me.
8 *Q. How should you serve God?*
A. By believing on his Son, calling on his name, and obeying his commands.

9 *Q. To whom ought you to pray?*

A. To God only.

10 *Q. How often ought you to pray to God?*

A. At least every morning and evening.

11 *Q. For what things ought you to pray daily to God?*

A. That he would bring me to Christ, renew my heart, forgive my sin, and keep me from evil.

12 *Q. What kind of a heart have you by nature?*

A. A heart filled with all unrighteousness.

13 *Q. Doth your wicked heart make all your thoughts, words, and actions sinful?*

A. Yes, I do nothing but sin.

14 *Q. Can you reform and renew your wicked heart?*

A. No; I am dead in trespasses and sin.

15 *Q. What then can change and melt your rebellious, hard, and stony heart?*

A. Nothing but God's almighty power and free grace.

16. *Q. Hath God promised you a new heart, pardon of sin, with every other blessing, and commanded you to ask them from him by prayer?*

A. Yes.

17 *Q. For whose sake ought you to seek these mercies from God in prayer?*

A. Only for Christ's sake.

18 *Q. Why must you be so earnest in praying for an interest in Christ, newness of heart, and pardon of sin?*

A. That I may live always in readiness for death.

19 *Q. Is your life very short, frail, and uncertain?*

A. Yes; perhaps I may die the next moment.

20 *Q. What shall become of you if you die in your sin?*

A. I must go to hell with the wicked.

21 *Q. What kind of a place is hell?*

A. A place of endless torment, being a lake that burns with fire and brimstone.

22 *Q. Who are the wicked that go to hell at death?*

A. Those who refuse Christ, neglect to read God's word, and pray to him; or who lie, steal, curse, swear, profane the Sabbath, and disobey their parents.

23 *Q. Who are the wicked men's companions in hell?*

A. The devil and his angels.

24 *Q. Where do the righteous go at death?*

A. To heaven.

25 *Q. What kind of a place is heaven?*

A. A most glorious, holy, and happy place.

26 *Q. Who are the righteous that go to heaven at death?*

A. Such as believe in Christ, love God, and hate evil.

27 *Q. What company shall the righteous have in heaven?*

A. God their Father, Christ their Saviour, and the holy angels and glorified saints.

28 *Q. What is the only way of getting to heaven?*

A. Receiving the Lord Jesus, and walking in him.

29 *Q. What ought you chiefly to remember in the days of your youth?*

A. My Creator and Redeemer.

30 *Q. What doth God chiefly require of you?*

A. To believe and obey him.

31 *Q. What is the only rule of your faith and obedience?*

A. The Bible or Holy Scriptures.

32 *Q. Whom ought you to love above all things?*

A. God in Christ as my Father and portion.

33 *Q. Why ought you to love God above all things?*

A. Because he is so glorious in himself, and so kind to me.

34 *Q. In what is God so kind to you?*

A. He gives me my life, health, food, and raiment; and offers me his Christ, and all good things with him.

35 *Q. Where lies your chief happiness?*
A. In the enjoyment of God.
36 *Q. What is God?*
A. God is a Spirit.
37 *Q. What kind of a Spirit is God?*
A. He is an infinite, eternal, and unchangeable Spirit.
38 *Q. Doth God see and know all things?*
A. Yes; he knows the very thoughts of our heart.
39 *Q. Can God do whatever he pleaseth?*
A. Yes; for he is Almighty.
40 *Q. Can he do or approve any thing sinful?*
A. No; for he is infinitely holy.
41 *Q. How many Gods are there?*
A. ONE only.
42 *Q. How many persons are there in the Godhead?*
A. Three: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.
43 *Q. Is each of these three persons the most high and only true God?*
A. Yes.
44 *Q. Do not then these three persons make three Gods?*
A. No; they are one and the same God.
45 *Q. In what are they the same?*
A. In substance.

46 *Q. In what are they equal?*
A. In power and glory.
47 *Q. Is not then God far more great and glorious than we can conceive?*
A. Yes.
48 *Q. Had ever God a beginning?*
A. No.
49 *Q. Will he ever have an end?*
A. No; he is from everlasting to everlasting.
50 *Q. Had every thing besides God a beginning?*
A. Yes.
51 *Q. Shall every thing besides him have an end?*
A. No; angels and souls of men shall live forever.
52 *Q. Who gave all things their beginning?*
A. God.
53 *Q. Of what did he make all things?*
A. Of nothing.
54 *Q. By what did he make all things?*
A. By the word of his power.
55 *Q. In what time did he make all things?*
A. In the space of six days.
56 *Q. For what end did he make all things?*
A. For his own glory.
57 *Q. In what condition did he make all things?*
A. God made all things very good.

58 *Q. Do all things still continue to be very good?*

A. No; sin hath made devils and men very bad.

Q. Which is the worst thing in the world?

A. Sin, that abominable thing which God hates.

60 *Q. What makes sin so exceedingly bad?*

A. It offends God and breaks his law.

61 *Q. How many kinds of sin are there?*

A. Two.

62 *Q. What are these two kinds?*

A. Original and actual.

63 *Q. What is original sin?*

A. It is that sin in which I was conceived and born.

64 *Q. Doth original sin wholly defile you, and is it sufficient to carry you to hell, though you had no other sin?*

A. Yes.

65 *Q. What is actual sin?*

A. It is the sin which I daily commit in thought, word, and deed.

66 *Q. What are the wages of sin?*

A. Death and hell.

67 *Q. What are you then by nature?*

A. I am an enemy to God, a child of Satan, and an heir of hell.

68 *Q. Were mankind originally created in this sinful and miserable state?*

A. No; our first parents, Adam and Eve, were created in a most holy and happy state.

69 *Q. Did they continue in that holy and happy state in which they were created?*

A. No; they fell from it.

70 *Q. How fell they from it?*

A. By sinning against God.

71 *Q. What was Adam and Eve's first sin?*

A. Their eating the forbidden fruit.

72 *Q. Who forbade them to eat this fruit?*

A. God.

73 *Q. Who tempted them to eat it?*

A. The Devil.

74 *Q. What evil was there in their eating this fruit?*

A. They thereby broke God's covenant, and so ruined themselves and all their natural posterity.

75 *Q. How many covenants are there?*

A. Two.

76 *Q. What are these two covenants?*

A. The covenant of works, and the covenant of grace.

77 *Q. With whom did God make the covenant of works?*

A. With Adam, for himself and his posterity.

78 *Q. With whom did he make the covenant of grace?*

A. With Christ in the elect's name.

79 *Q. What was the condition of the covenant of works?*

A. Adam's perfect obedience.

80 *Q. What is the condition of the covenant of grace?*

A. Christ's fulfilling all righteousness.

81 *Q. Which of these two covenants is most excellent and glorious?*

A. The covenant of grace.

82 *Q. Wherein is the covenant of grace more excellent?*

A. Its blessings are more large and free, and it cannot be broken.

83 *Q. Why cannot the covenant of grace be broken?*

A. Because Christ cannot fall as Adam did.

84 *Q. Did you and all mankind break the covenant of works in Adam's eating the forbidden fruit?*

A. Yes.

85 *Q. How can that be, since you were not then born?*

A. Adam represented me, and I sinned in him.

86 *Q. What did you fall from by Adam's eating the forbidden fruit?*

A. A state of holiness and happiness.

87 *Q. Into what did you fall by it?*

A. Into a state of sin and misery.

88 *Q. Is there any recovery from the state of sin and misery, into which the breach of the covenant of works hath brought you?*

A. Yes; by the covenant of grace.

89 *Q. Cannot your own good thoughts, words, or actions, recover you by the covenant of works?*

A. No; every thing I do is sinful.

90 *Q. Can God pardon your sin without satisfaction to his justice?*

A. No; he "will by no means clear the "guilty."

91 *Q. Can you satisfy God's justice for your own sin?*

A. No; I cannot even cease from adding sin to sin.

92 *Q. Hath God received satisfaction for your sin from another in your stead?*

A. Yes.

93 *Q. From whom hath God received satisfaction for your sin?*

A. From our Lord Jesus Christ.

Q. How hath Jesus Christ satisfied for sin?

A. He fulfilled the law, and gave his life a ransom for many.

95 *Q. Why could none but Christ satisfy for your sins?*

A. Because none but he could bear infinite wrath.

96 *Q. But who is this Jesus Christ?*

A. He is the eternal Son of God in our nature.

97 *Q. Who provided Jesus Christ to be our Redeemer?*

A. God, whom we had offended by our sin.

98 *Q. What moved God to provide this glorious Surety and Redeemer for us?*

A. Nothing but his own free love.

99 *Q. How many offices hath Christ?*

A. Three.

100 *Q. What are the three offices of our Redeemer?*

A. The offices of Prophet, Priest, and King.

101 *Q. For what end do you need a Redeemer with this threefold office.*

A. To cure my threefold misery.

102 *Q. What is your threefold misery?*

A. Ignorance, guilt, and bondage.

103 *Q. How doth Christ as a prophet cure your ignorance?*

A. By his word and Spirit teaching me.

104 *Q. How doth Christ as a Priest remove your guilt?*

A. By obeying God's law, and dying for me.

105 *Q. How doth Christ as a King rescue you from bondage?*

A. By delivering me from the power of sin and Satan.

106 *Q. How many natures hath Christ?*

A. Two.

107 *Q. What are the two natures of our Redeemer?*

A. The nature of God, and the nature of man.

108 *Q. Was Christ God from all eternity?*

A. Yes.

109 *Q. Was Christ man from all eternity?*

A. No.

110 *Q. When did our Redeemer become man?*

A. "In the fulness of time;" more than eighteen hundred years ago.

Q. What doth Christ now continue to be?

A. Both God and man in one person.

112 *Q. How long will Christ continue to be both God and man in one person?*

A. For ever.

113. *Q. In what condition was Christ born when he became man?*

A. In a low condition.

114 *Q. What was that low condition?*

A. He was born of a mean woman, in a stable, and laid in a manger.

115 *Q. What kind of life had Christ in this world?*

A. A most afflicted and sorrowful life.

116 *Q. What made Christ's life so afflicted and sorrowful?*

A. The wrath of God and the contradiction of sinners.

117 *Q. What shameful and painful death did Christ die?*

A. The cursed death of the cross.

118 *Q. For what end did Christ endure all these sufferings?*

A. To satisfy God's justice and atone for our sins.

Q. What became of Christ after his death?

A. His body was buried, and his soul went to heaven.

120 *Q. How long did Christ's body continue in the grave?*

A. A part of three days.

Q. Did Christ's body corrupt in the grave?

A. No.

122 *Q. How came that?*

A. Because he was without sin.

123 *Q. What became of Christ after lying in the grave?*

A. He rose from the dead, and ascended into heaven.

124 *Q. Where sits he there?*

A. At the right hand of God.

125 *Q. How long shall Christ continue sitting at the right hand of God?*

A. For ever.

126 *Q. Will Christ ever come again to this world?*

A. Yes.

127 *Q. When will he come again to it?*

A. At the last day.

128 *Q. For what end will he come again at the last day?*

A. To judge the world.

Q. Whom will Christ judge at the last day?

A. All devils and men, both the quick and the dead.

130 *Q. Of what must we then give account to God?*

A. Of all our thoughts, words, and actions.

131 *Q. By what shall the dead be raised up at the last judgment?*

A. By the Almighty power of God.

132 *Q. Who shall bring us and all mankind to the judgment-seat of Christ?*

A. The holy angels.

133 *Q. Whom will Christ set upon his right hand in the day of judgment?*

A. The righteous.

Q. Whom will he place on his left hand?

A. The wicked.

135 *Q. What shall be the sentence of the righteous?*

A. "Come, ye blessed of my Father, "inherit the kingdom prepared for you "from the foundation of the world."

136 *Q. What shall be the sentence of the wicked?*

A. "Depart from me, ye cursed, into "everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and "his angels."

137 *Q. What shall become of the wicked after the passing of this sentence?*

A. They shall be cast, both soul and body, into hell.

Q. What shall become of the righteous?

A. They shall triumphantly pass into heaven with Christ.

Q. What shall the wicked suffer in hell?

A. They shall be tormented with fire and brimstone for ever and ever.

140 *Q. What shall the righteous for ever and ever do in heaven?*

A. They shall behold the glory, and sing the praises of God in Christ.

141 *Q. How may we attain to that blessed state?*

A. By getting an interest in Christ and his righteousness.

142 *Q. What mean you by the righteousness of Christ?*

A. His obedience and suffering, or his doing and dying.

143 *Q. Can you hope for admission into heaven by the righteousness of Christ, and yet continue in a course of disobedience to God's commands?*

A. No; "without holiness no man shall "see the Lord."

Q. How many commands of God are there?

A. Ten.

145 *Q. Upon what did God of old write these ten commandments?*

A. Upon two tables of stone.

146 *Q. How many commands are in the first table?*

A. Four.

147 *Q. How many commands are in the second?*

A. Six.

148 *Q. What doth the first table of God's law contain?*

A. Our duty to God.

Q. What doth the second table contain?

A. Our duty to man.

150 *Q. To whom did God deliver these two tables of his law?*

A. To Moses and the Israelites at Mount Sinai.

151 *Q. What is the fulfilment of the whole law of God?*

A. Love to God, and love to man.

152 *Q. What doth the first command require of you?*

A. To take the Lord alone to be my God in Christ.

153 *Q. Why must you take God* AS IN CHRIST *for your God?*

A. Because it is only in Christ that God is reconciling the world to himself.

154 *Q. What doth the second command require of you?*

A. To pray to and praise God, and read and hear his word.

155 *Q. What doth the third command forbid you?*

A. To curse, swear, or speak lightly of God.

156 *Q. What doth the fourth command require of you?*

A. To remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.

Q. What doth the fifth command enjoin you?

A. To honour and obey my father and mother.

Q. What doth the sixth command forbid you?

A. To fight, or hurt myself or my neighbour.

159 *Q. What doth the seventh command forbid you?*

A. All uncleanness and filthy language.

160 *Q. What doth the eighth command forbid?*

A. All cheating, stealing, and robbing.

Q. What doth the ninth command forbid?

A. Lying, and speaking evil of my neighbour.

Q. What doth the tenth command forbid?

A. All envying and coveting what is my neighbour's.

163 *Q. In what manner ought you to keep all these ten commands?*

A. Perfectly and constantly.

Q. Can you keep any of them in this manner?

A. No; I break them all daily.

165 *Q. In what do you daily break the commands of God?*

A. In my thoughts, words, and deeds.

166 *Q. What doth the least breach of these commands deserve?*

A. God's eternal wrath and curse.

167 *Q. By whom think you to escape God's wrath and curse?*

A. By Jesus Christ, the Surety of lost sinners.

168. *Q. Shall every man be saved by what Christ hath done and suffered?*

A. No; "Many are called, but few are chosen."

169 *Q. Who may warrantably expect salvation through Christ?*

A. Such as truly believe in him, and repent of their sins.

170 *Q. Can you believe and repent of yourself?*

A. No; faith and repentance are the gifts of God.

171 *Q. Are you not a stranger to God and far off from him by nature?*

A. Yes.

Q. How are sinners brought near to God?

A. Only by the blood and Spirit of Christ.

173 *Q. What are the ordinary means of our acquaintance with God?*

A. The word, sacraments, and prayer.

174 *Q. When is the word a mean of our acquaintance with God?*

A. When read and heard with faith and love.

175 *Q. How many sacraments are there?*

A. Two.

176 *Q. What are these two sacraments?*

A. Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

177 *Q. Who appointed these sacraments?*

A. Jesus Christ, the only King and Head of the church.

178 *Q. For what end hath Christ appointed these sacraments?*

A. To represent, seal, and apply himself and his benefits to us.

179 *Q. How long shall baptism and the Lord's supper continue in the church?*

A. Till Christ's second coming.

180. *Q. With what were you baptized?*

A. With water.

181 *Q. What doth the water used in baptism signify?*

A. The blood and Spirit of Christ.

182 *Q. From what doth the blood of Christ cleanse us?*

A. From the guilt and filth of our sin.

183 *Q. From what sin did you need to be washed in your infancy?*

A. From my original sin.

184 *Q. In whose name were you baptized?*

A. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

185 *Q. What did you renounce in your baptism?*

A. The service of the devil, the world, and the flesh.

186 *Q. What did you engage to in your baptism?*

A. To take the Lord alone to be my God in Christ, and to serve him always.

187 *Q. How can you perform your baptismal engagements?*

A. I must pray daily to God for grace to enable me.

188 *Q. Can you pray aright of yourself?*

A. No; but I must earnestly plead that Christ would teach and enable me to pray.

189 *Q. By what means doth Christ teach us and enable us to pray?*

A. By his word and Spirit.

190 *Q. What special pattern of prayer has Christ left us in his word?*

A. The Lord's prayer.

191 *Q. Can you repeat the Lord's prayer?*

A. Yes; "Our Father which art in heaven," &c.

192 *Q. How many petitions are in it?*

A. Six.

193 *Q. Which is the first petition in the Lord's prayer?*

A. "Hallowed be thy name."

194 *Q. What is the second petition?*

A. "Thy kingdom come."

195 *Q. What is the third petition?*

A. "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven."

196 *Q. What is the fourth petition?*

A. "Give us this day our daily bread."

197 *Q. What is the fifth petition?*

A. "Forgive us our debts, *or sins*, as we forgive our debtors."

198 *Q. What is the sixth petition?*

A. "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

199 *Q. How doth Christ's Spirit enable you to pray?*

A. By giving me a praying heart, and showing me what I ought to plead for.

200 *Q. Will not God accept the requests of your lips?*

A. No; unless they proceed from my heart.

201 *Q. Can you pray with your heart before it be renewed by the Spirit of God?*

A. No.

202 *Q. What is the prayer of the wicked in God's account?*

A. "It is an abomination to the Lord."

203 *Q. Will you then receive Christ, pray earnestly, and live soberly, righteously, and godly?*

A. Yes; through the grace of God enabling me I will.

204 *Q. What will your sincere faith, earnest prayers, and holy life issue in at last?*

A. In my full enjoying of God in Christ. and triumphantly praising him for evermore.

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